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SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE, U.S. NAVAL
PATROLS, U.S.-CHINA TIRE CASE, NORTH KOREA

Editorial Quotes

11. JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE

"U.S. and Australia invite China to participate in military
exercise"

The official Communist Party international news publication Global Times (Huanqiu Shibao)(09/04)(pg 1): "The invitation by the U.S. and Australia - through their respective media outlets - to China to participate in a joint military exercise surprised all Chinese military experts and scholars. The Global Times interviewed 20 experts on international politics and military affairs, 11 of whom expressed concern over this potential military exercise and opposition to the way the invitation was extended. However, some scholars welcomed the invitation. Fudan University professor of international relations Shen Dingli said China should be open to this. Being afraid of contact shows weakness and a lack of confidence. China should not lose out on the potential benefits just because there are also risks. Li Daguang at China's National Defense University said that if the U.S. and Australia are sincere, then China should treat this invitation properly. A joint military exercise between the U.S., Australia, and China would help preserve regional stability and would not influence Japan's and South Korea's alliances with the U.S. and Australia. Li Jie, an expert at the Chinese Navy Military Academy Institute, argued that there needs to be discussion between the three parties prior to this sort of military cooperation. This move puts pressure on China, but it also 'tests the water.' Editor-in-Chief of the online edition of 'Naval Knowledge,' Song Xiaojun, said that Western countries' ultimate goal is maintaining an international military order that protects their interests, which is contrary to China's goal of developing military strength for its own security need. China should be vigilant."

12. U.S. NAVAL PATROLS

"U.S. submarines wander around China carrying nuclear bombs"

Elite Reference (Qingnian Cankao), a newspaper affiliated to the official Communist Youth League China Youth Daily (09/04)(pg 6): "China has expressed opposition to U.S. spying activities around China's territory. While the U.S. and Russia are advocating nuclear disarmament, the U.S. is increasing its strategic patrolling activity near China. Among the six American submarines patrolling the seas near China, at least two of them have been on 'high alert,' which means they are capable of launching 48 missiles just a few minutes after receiving orders. Analysts question why, 20 years after the Cold War ended, the U.S. Navy still needs to send 14 nuclear submarines, armed with more than 1,000 nuclear bombs, on more than 30 patrol missions a year. Are U.S. nuclear weapons protecting or threatening world peace? The UK, by comparison, sends only three submarines, with less than 160 missiles, on six patrol missions a year, which is sufficient for its self-defense. The U.S. military's increased patrolling in the Pacific Ocean will definitely

add to distrust between the U.S. and China and could increase the possibility of 'frictions' between the two countries at sea, even leading to a 'strategic misjudgment.' It is also likely to motivate the Chinese Navy to develop more submarines or powerful anti-submarine capabilities, and to conduct similar patrols."

13. U.S.-CHINA TIRE CASE

"Proposal on tire special protection case submitted to Obama; final result to be seen in 15 days"

The Shanghai-based Shanghai Media Group (SMG) publication, China Business News (Diyi Caijing)(09/04)(pg A4): "Even if Obama approves the 'special protection' measure, he may not take 'extreme' measures, such as imposing high tariffs on Chinese tire imports. Obama will find a balance among the competing interests of Sino-U.S. trade relations, domestic employment, and political pressure. It is still difficult to speculate on the final result. Xu Wenying, Deputy Secretary General of the China Rubber Industry Association (CRIA), said that the proposal may not recommend imposing special tariffs of 55%, 45%, and 35% over the next three years on Chinese tires. Deputy Minister of Commerce Zhong Shan visited the U.S. in August, increasing the level of the negotiations and demonstrating China's more intensified negotiating efforts. Deng Yali, CRIA Deputy Director, warned domestic tire companies that even if the special tariffs are not adopted, the U.S. is still likely to implement anti-dumping and anti-subsidy measures. Chinese tire companies should step up their efforts to develop new products, switch to a more low-end product model, and explore other exports market while still maintaining their operations in the North American market."

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14. NORTH KOREA

"China is willing to push for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula"

The official intellectual publication Guangming Daily (Guangming Ribao)(09/04)(pg 8): "At a routine press conference on September 3, Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Jiang Yu said that China is willing to work with the relevant parties to push for the denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula. Answering related questions, Jiang briefed the media on the visit of U.S. Special Representative for North Korea Stephen Bosworth and DPRK Vice Foreign Minister Kim Yong Il. Jiang said Bosworth would pay a visit to China on September 3 and 4 and would have meetings with Chinese Foreign Minister Yang Jiechi and Vice Foreign Minister Wu Dawei in which they would discuss the Korean nuclear issue and the Six-Party Talks. She confirmed that Kim is also paying a visit to China: 'He is in Jiangsu Province now and will return to Beijing. The visit will last until the end of this week.' According to Jiang, Kim has met Chinese Vice Foreign Minister Wu Dawei and exchanged views on issues of common concern."

HUNTSMAN